

Proposed Rosemont Copper Mine (AZ)
March 15, 2018

Issue: Hudbay Minerals, a Canadian mining company, is proposing a new 4,700 acre open pit copper mine in Pima County, Arizona. The proposed project would result in direct surface impacts to over 40 acres (18 linear miles) of headwater streams, and secondary surface impacts to at least 28 acres. Analysis of the project has also raised concerns regarding the potential impacts of the mine on downstream water quality. The mineral deposit could produce up to 10% of U.S. annual production of copper and more than 400 jobs over the 25 year life of the mine.

Background: The Rosemont Mine would be located predominantly on Coronado National Forest lands south of Tucson in the headwaters of the Cienega Creek watershed. The watershed supports a complex network of streams, springs, and wetlands that are responsible for a significant portion of recharge to the Tucson aquifer. The project area also includes streams designated by the state as “Tier 3-Outstanding National Resource Waters.”

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

